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# SELF-HEALING COATINGS WITH MULTI-LEVEL PROTECTION BASED ON ACTIVE NANOCONTAINERS

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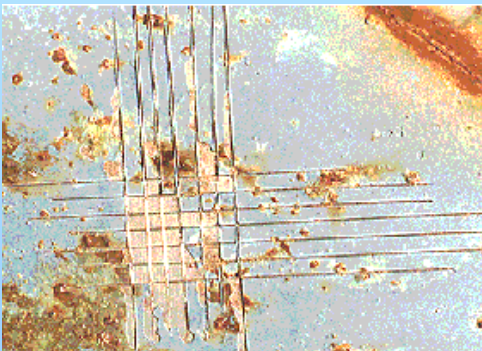
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2009 U.S. Army Corrosion Summit

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# Protective coatings on metallic substrates

- +Aesthetic properties
- +Tailored surface properties
- +Good barrier against corrosive species
- Lack of self-healing

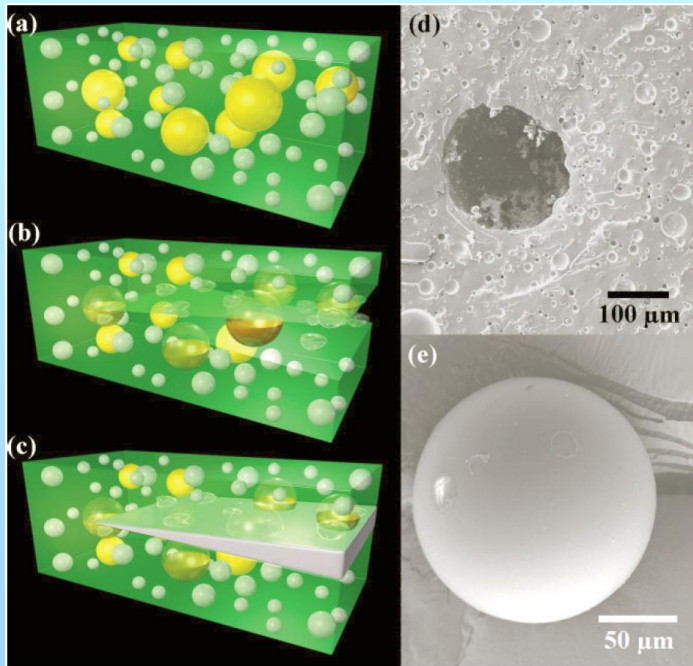


**Passive + active**  
**Coating + Active Healing Agent**

+Combination of barrier and self-healing

# Definition of Self-Healing

The term “**self-healing**” in materials science means self-recovery of the mechanical integrity and initial properties of the material after destructive actions of external environment or under influence of internal stresses.



Self-healing composite consisting:

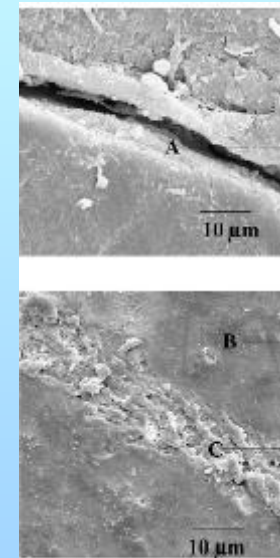
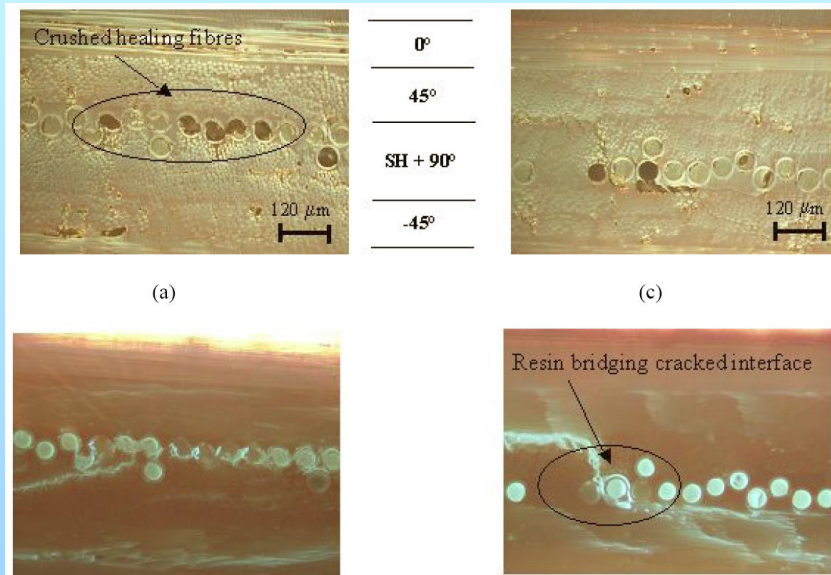
- microencapsulated catalyst (yellow)
- phase-separated healing-agent droplets (white)
- matrix (green)

B.S.H. Cho, H.M. Andersson, S.R. White, N.R. Sottos, P.V. Braun, *Adv. Mater.* **2006**, **18**,997-1000.

# Self-Healing Protective Coatings

The classical understanding of self-healing is based on the complete recovery of the coating functionalities due to a real healing of the defect retrieving initial coating integrity

GFRP  
HGF+Re



•coating

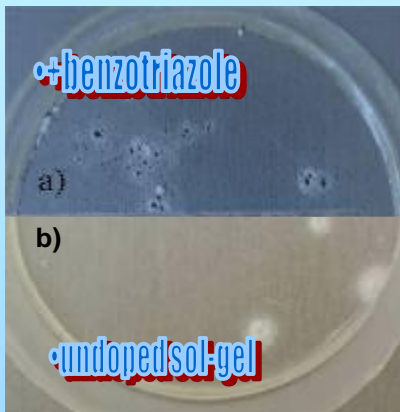
•bohemite

- R.S. Trask, G.J. Williams, I.P. Bond, *J. R. Soc. Interface.* 2007, 4, 363-371.
- T. Sugama, K. Gawlik, *Mater. Lett.* 2003, 57, 4282-4290.

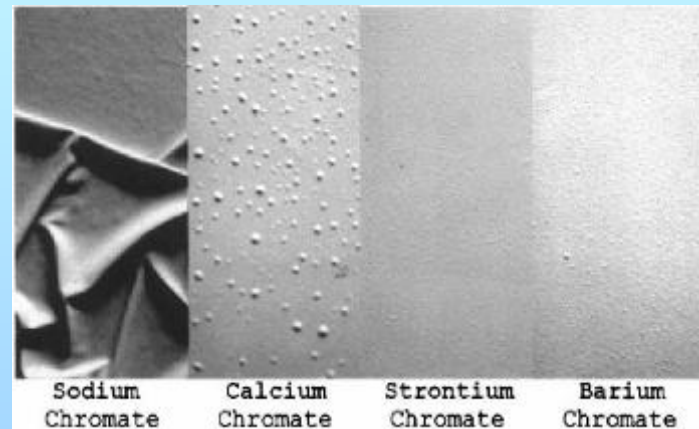
# CORROSION SELF-HEALING

The hindering of the corrosion activity in a defect in a coating by any mechanism can be considered as corrosion self-healing

## • Examples of negative effect of active agents



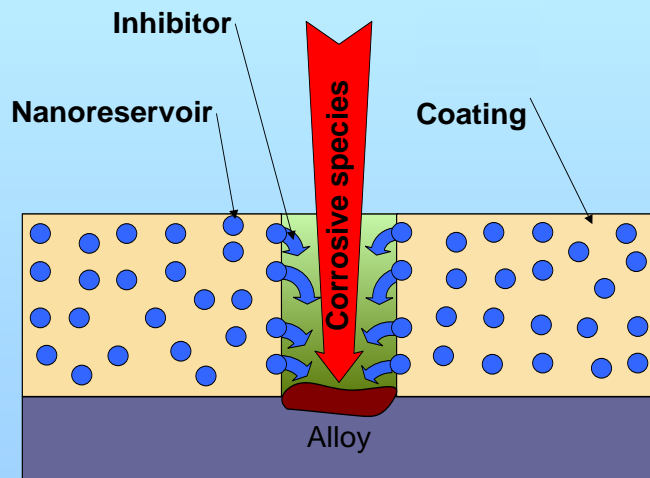
↑  
**Low hydrolytical stability**



↑  
**Osmotic blistering**

Active agent must be **encapsulated** in order to prevent its interaction with components of coatings!!!

## Nano-encapsulation of corrosion inhibitors before addition to the coating



### Possible Advantages

- ✓ Reduction of negative effect of the inhibitor on coating
- ✓ Prevention of inhibitor deactivation due to interaction with coating components
- ✓ Controllable release of inhibitor on demand

# Types of Nanocontainers

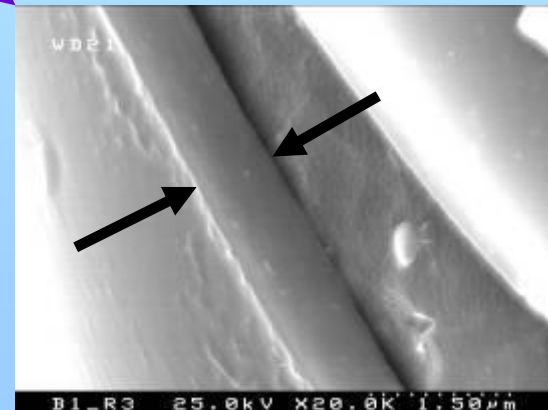
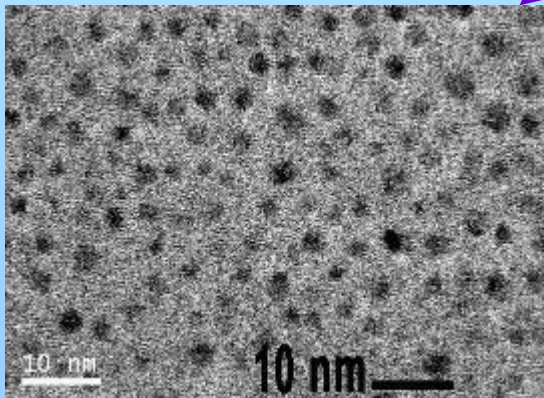
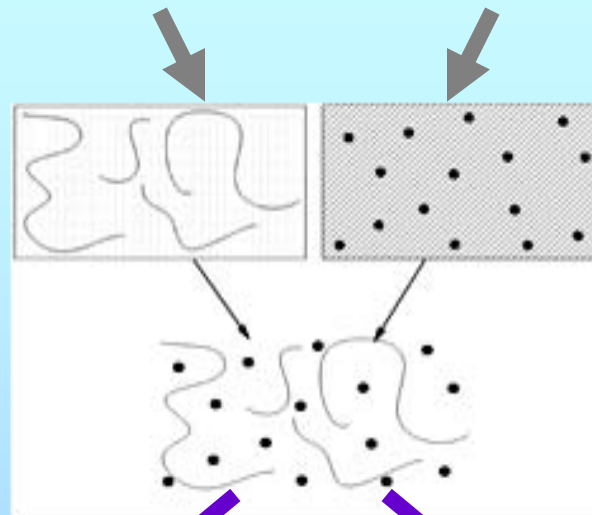
- Oxide nanoparticles
- Porous nanostructured layers
- LbL constructed nanocontainers
- Halloysite nanocontainers
- LDH nanocontainers



# In-situ formed oxide nanoparticles as reservoirs of corrosion inhibitors

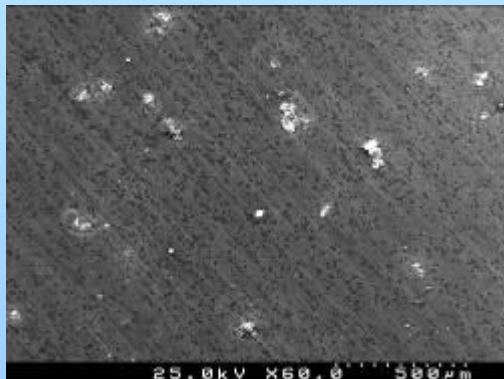
GPTMS + 2-propanol+H<sub>2</sub>O

TPOZ + H<sub>2</sub>O + Ce<sup>3+</sup>

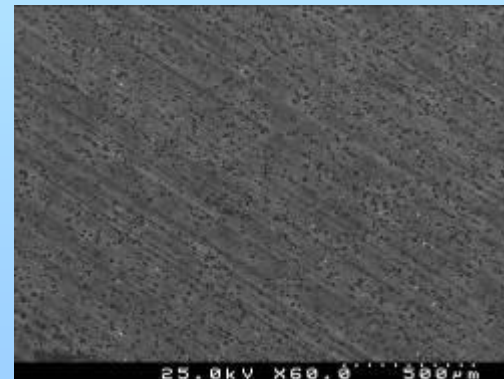


# Corrosion protection performance of nanocomposite films

**without inhibitor**



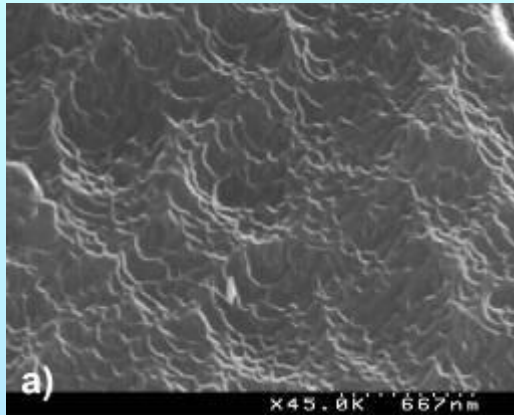
**with inhibitor**



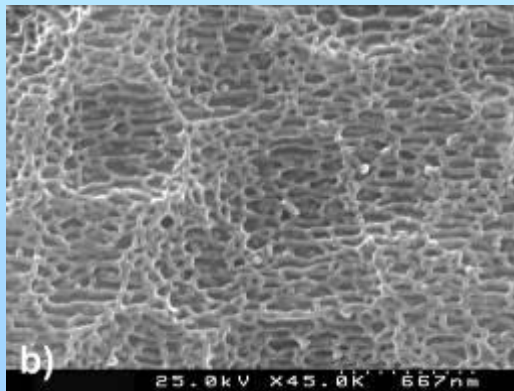
**1 month immersion in 3% NaCl solution**

# Porous layer as nanostructured reservoir of corrosion inhibitor

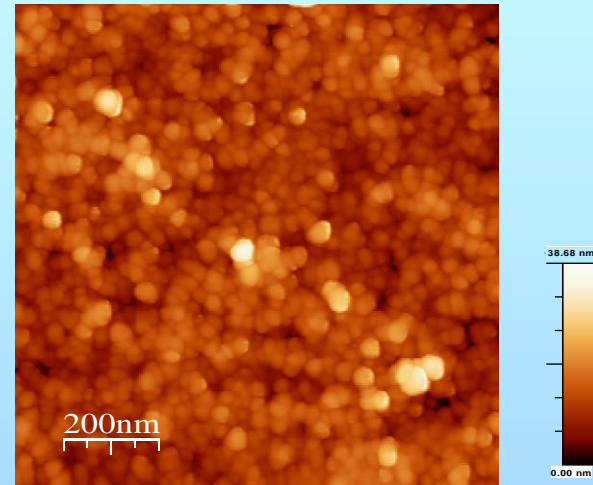
- Structure of the nano-titania layer deposited on polished and etched alloy



• Etched alloy



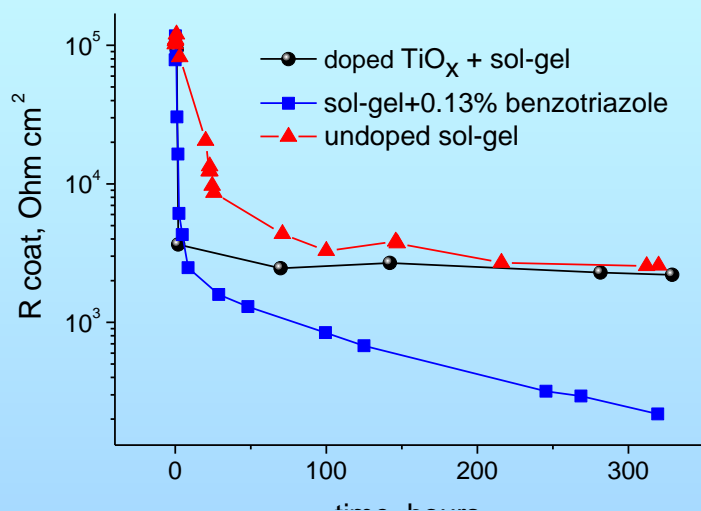
• Etched alloy + titania



**The micelle-template approach can be used to obtain porous nanostructured titania pre-layer before hybrid film deposition**

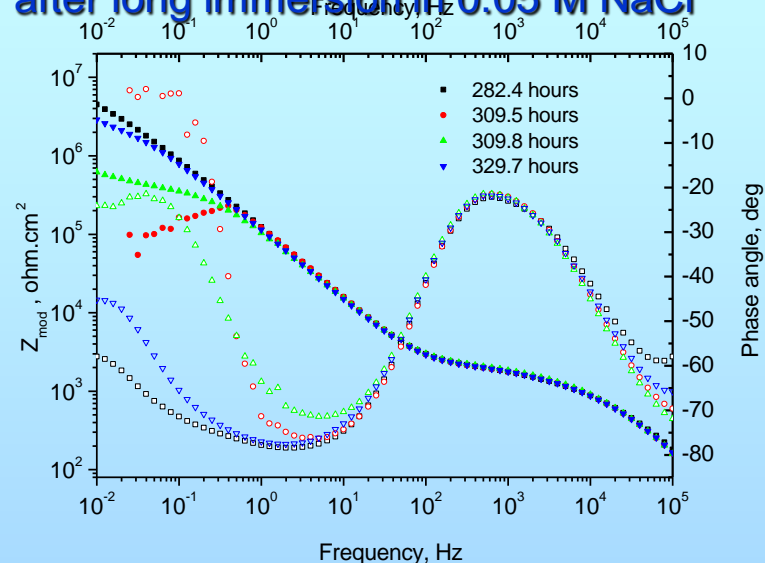
# Porous layer as nanostructured reservoir of corrosion inhibitor

## Evolution of pore resistance for different hybrid films



**Use of nanostructured porous reservoir prevents degradation of sol-gel film due to introduction of inhibitor**

## Bode diagrams for two-layer system after long immersion in 0.05 M NaCl

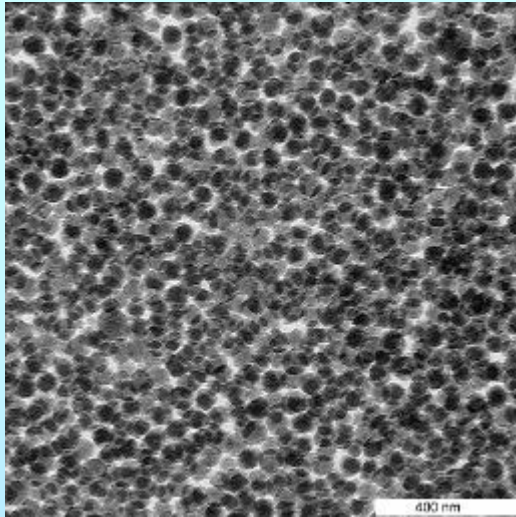


**Increase of low frequency impedance is originated from defect passivation**

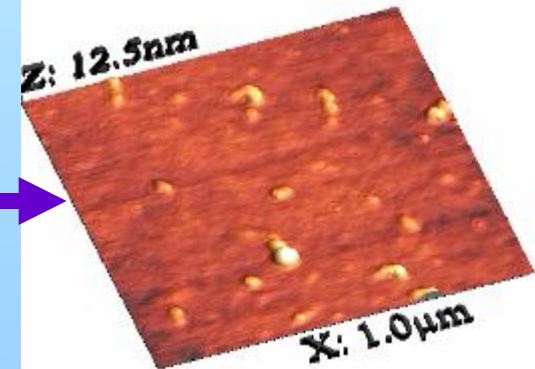
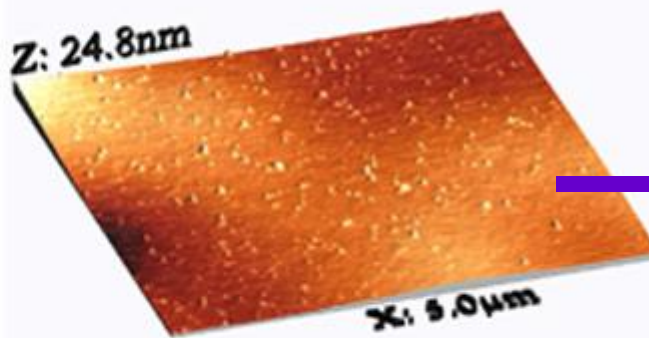
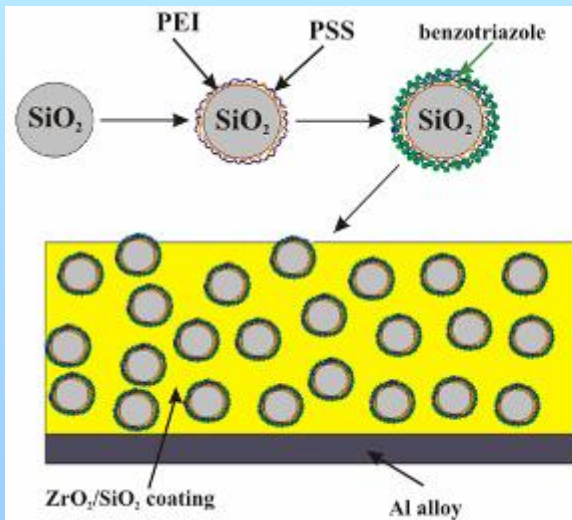
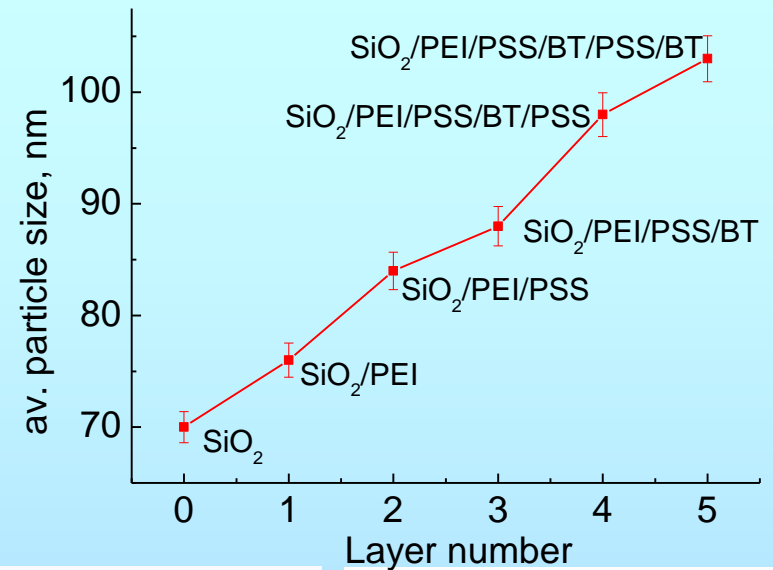
**Two-layer system demonstrates promising results with signs of self-healing effect**



# LbL polyelectrolyte nanocontainers for inhibitor encapsulation



Layer by Layer  
assembling process



# Self-healing of an artificial defect

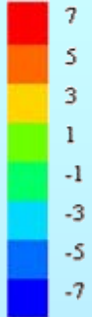
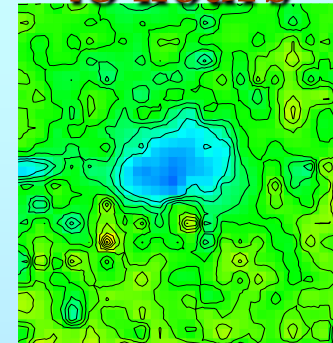
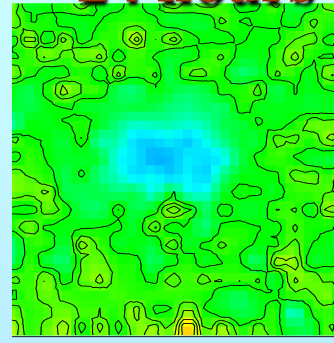
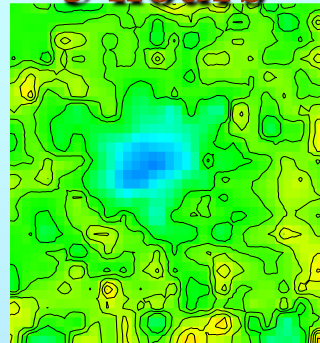
SVET maps

5 hours

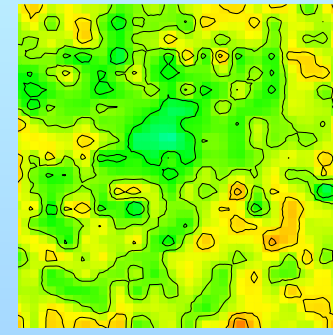
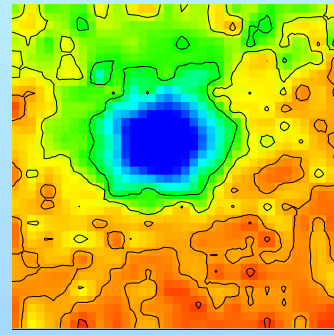
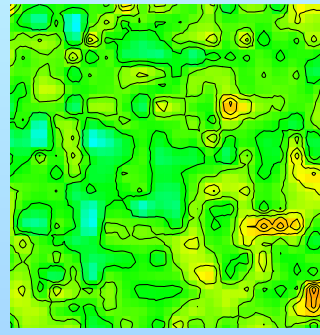
24 hours

48 hours

undoped

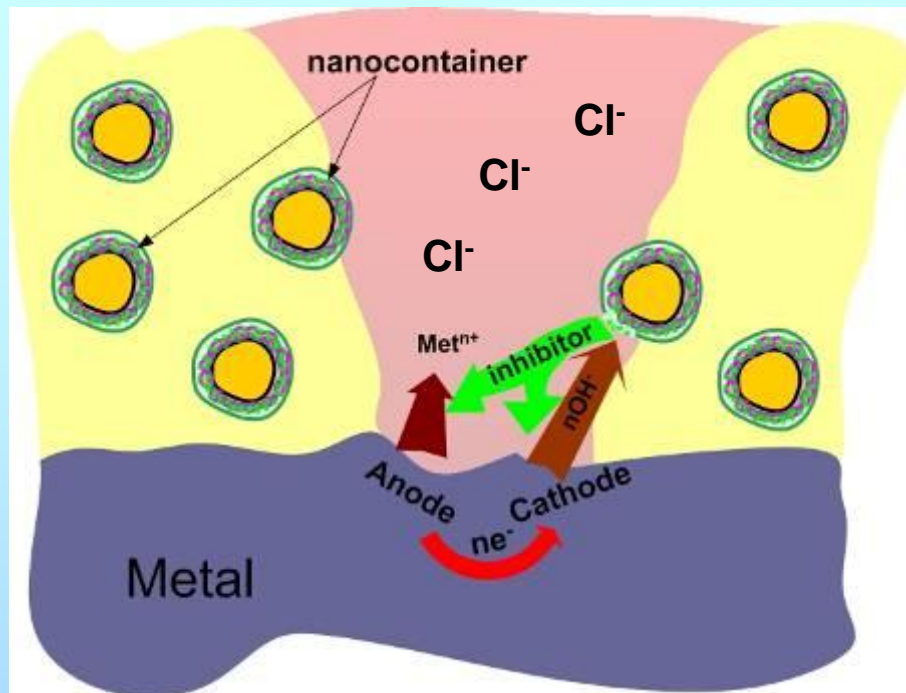


nanocontainers  
+benzotriazole



**Suppression of the active corrosion processes demonstrates self-healing of artificial defect in sol-gel film doped with nanocontainers loaded with benzotriazole**

# Mechanism of “smart” self-healing



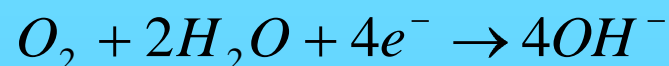
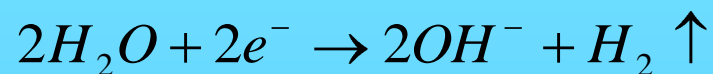
**Induced defect opens pathway for chloride ions**



**Corrosion processes start on the alloy surface**



**Cathodic reactions generate hydroxyls leading to local increase of pH:**



**Raise of pH increases permeability of polyelectrolyte shell leading to release of inhibitor**



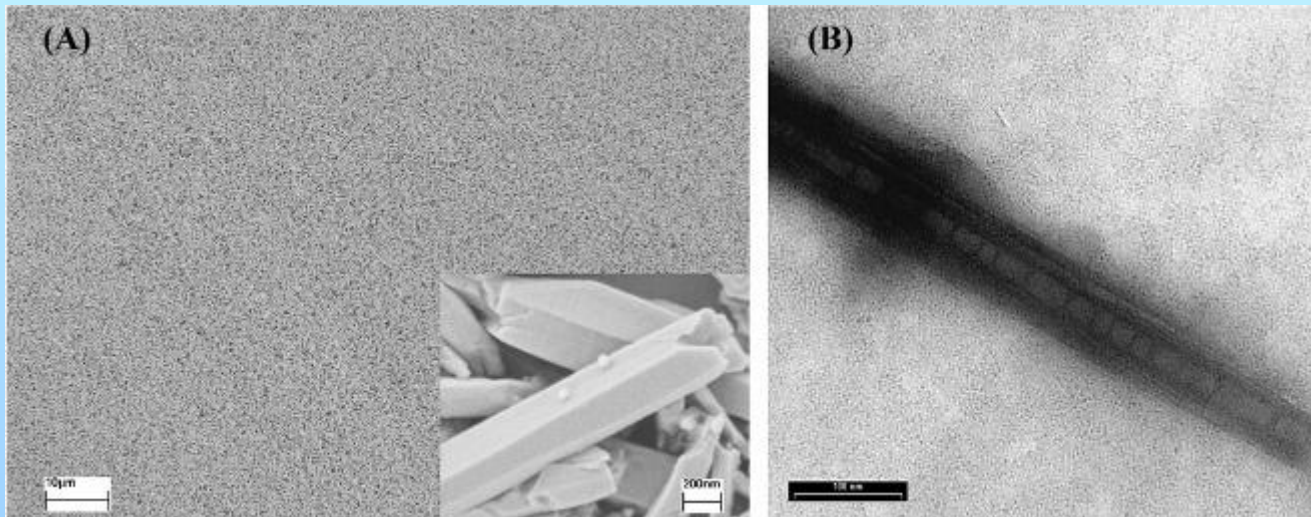
**Released benzotriazole hinders corrosion activity healing the defect**



# Halloysite as nanocontainers of corrosion inhibitor

**Halloysite** is defined as a two-layered aluminosilicate, which has a hollow tubular structure in the submicrometer range.

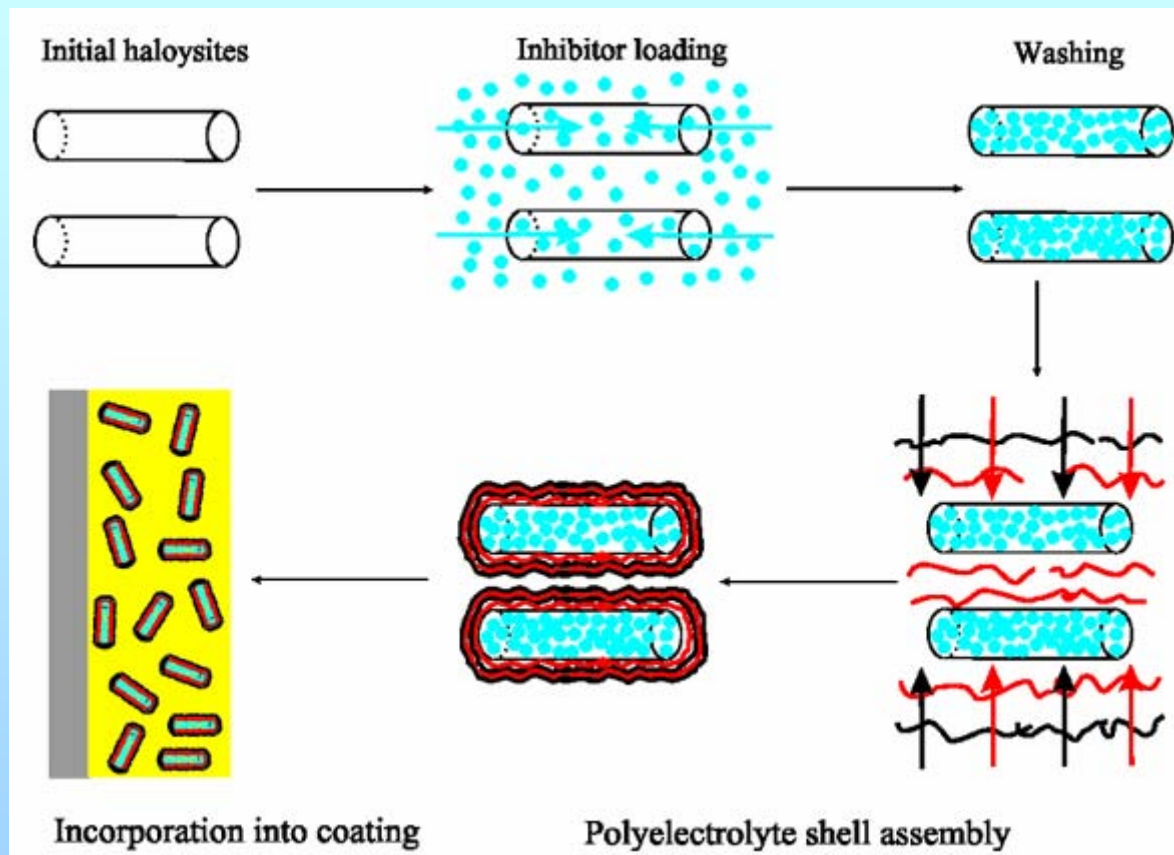
The halloysite tubules are very small with a typical size of less than  $3.0\ \mu\text{m}$  long  $\times$   $0.3\ \mu\text{m}$  outer diameter and have an inner diameter of 10–150 nm depending on the types.



**SEM (A) and TEM (B) images of the halloysite nanotubes**

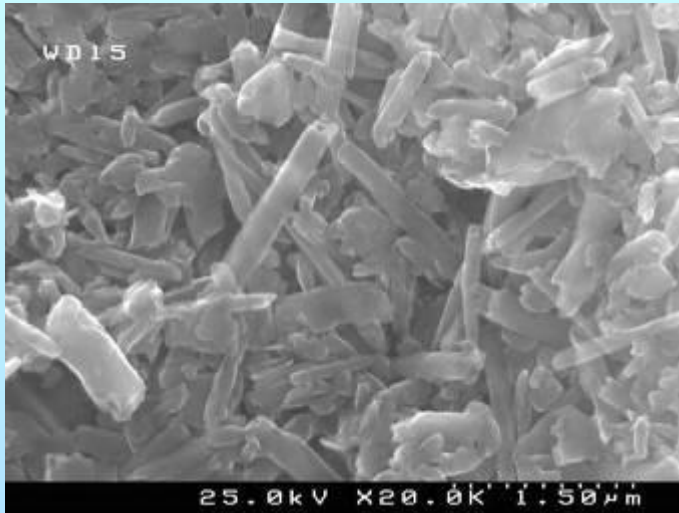


# Halloysite as nanocontainers of corrosion inhibitor



## Fabrication of 2-mercaptobenzothiazole-loaded halloysite/polyelectrolyte nanocontainers

# Halloysites nanocontainers with PE shell

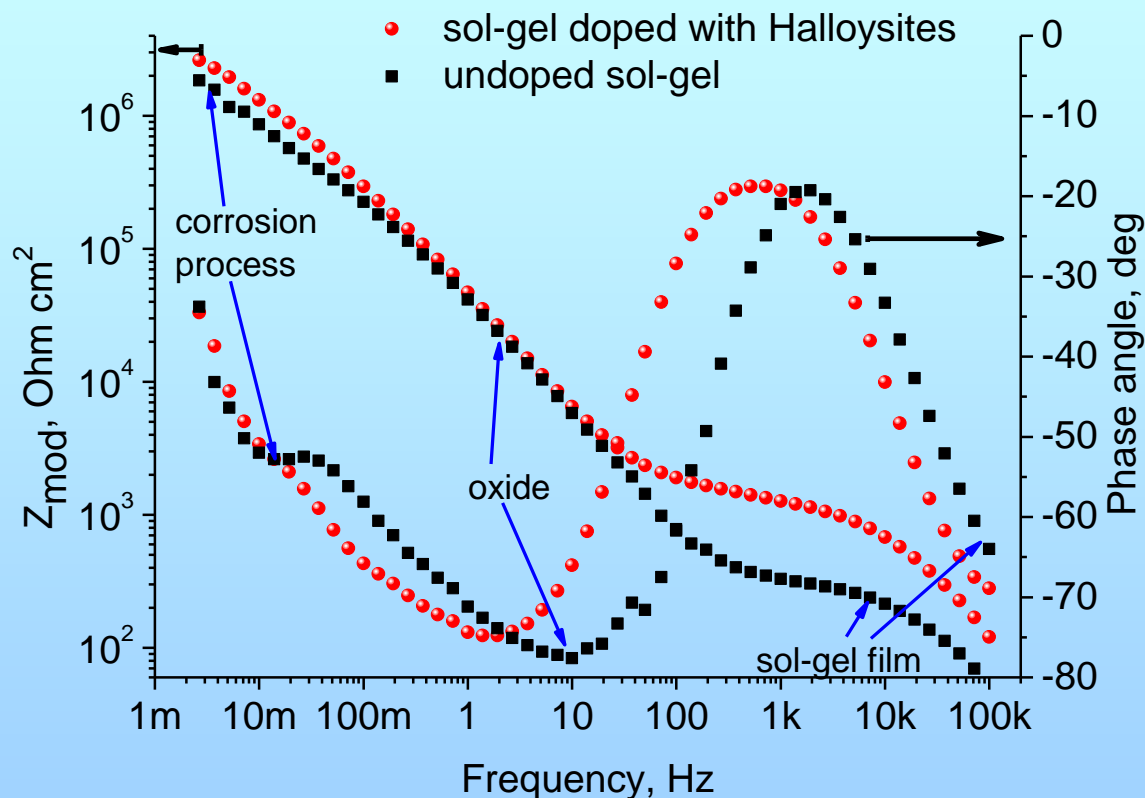


**2-mercaptobenzothiazole-loaded  
halloysite/polyelectrolyte  
nanocontainers**



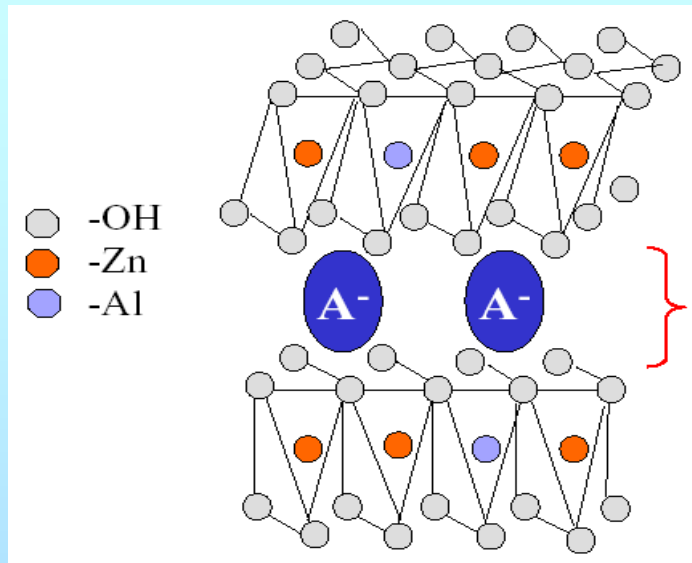
**Nanocontainers in hybrid coating**

# Corrosion protection properties of hybrid films doped with halloysite nanocontainers



**Impedance spectra of undoped and halloysites doped sol-gel coatings after 2 week immersion test in 3% NaCl**

# LDH nanocontainers



## Layered double hydroxide (LDH) powders:

- 1)  $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Cr}^{3+}$  (2:1)
- 2)  $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Al}^{3+}$  (2:1)
- 3)  $\text{Zn}^{2+}/\text{Al}^{3+}$  (2:1)

## Inhibiting anions:

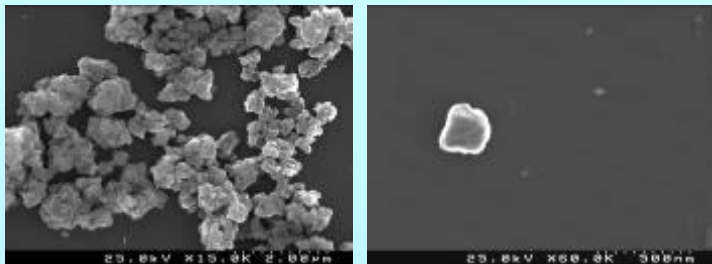
- Mercaptobenzothiazole (MBT)
- Quinaldic acid (QA)
- Vanadate
- Tungstate
- Molybdate

## Two ways of pigment preparation:

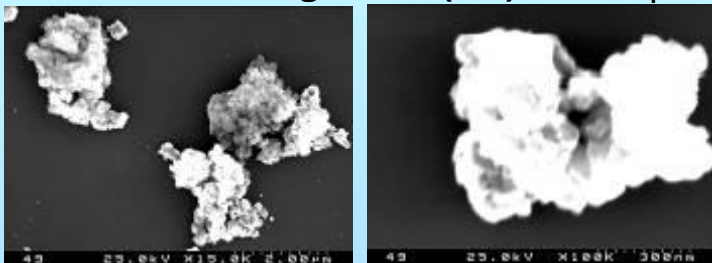
- direct synthesis (-formation of insoluble salts/complexes)
- ion-exchange

# Mg/Cr LDH pigments

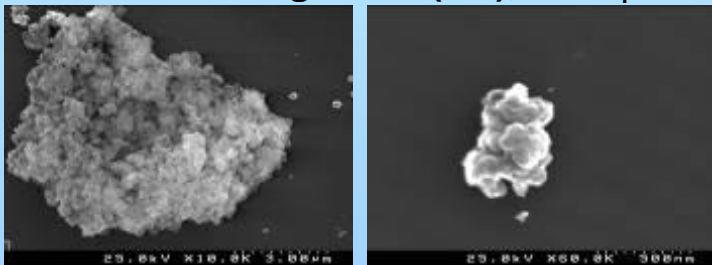
Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup> (2:1), Cl<sup>-</sup>



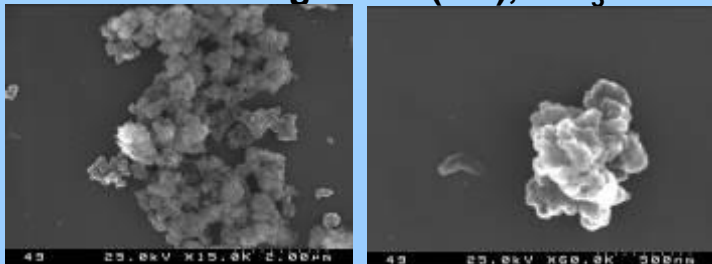
Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup> (2:1), MoO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>



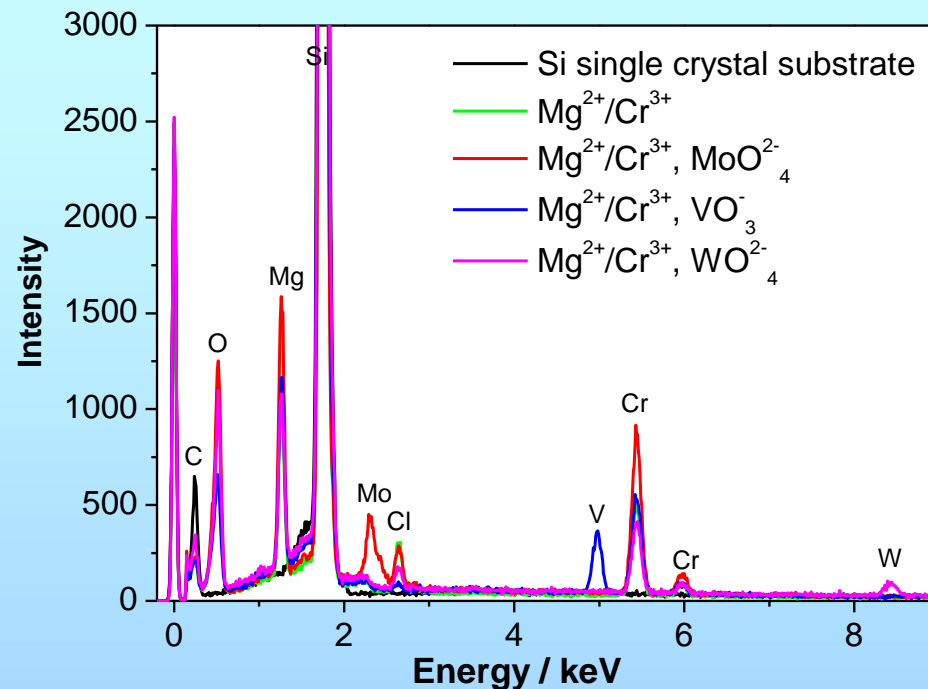
Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup> (2:1), WO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>



Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup> (2:1), VO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>



EDS of initial LDH powders :



Composition of LDH powders in at. % by EDS.

Powder	Mg	Cr	Mo	V	W	O
Mg/Cr, Cl <sup>-</sup>	4.73	2.37	---	---	---	91.90
Mg/Cr, MoO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	10.02	7.28	4.48	---	---	76.84
Mg/Cr, WO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	2.50	1.24	---	---	0.32	95.67
Mg/Cr, VO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	3.55	1.65	---	1.03	---	93.72

# Mg/Cr LDH pigments

Photos of AA2024 samples after corrosion tests during 14 days  
(50 mg of LDH was added to 10 ml of 0.05 M NaCl)

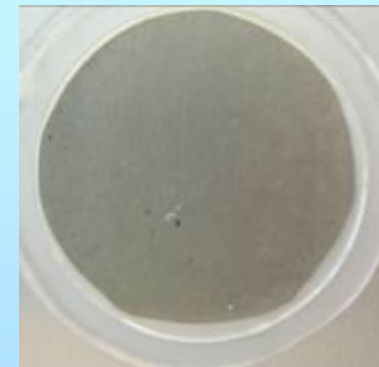
**0.05M NaCl**



**0.05M NaCl + Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>**



**0.05M NaCl + Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup>, MoO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>**



**0.05M NaCl + Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup>, WO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>**



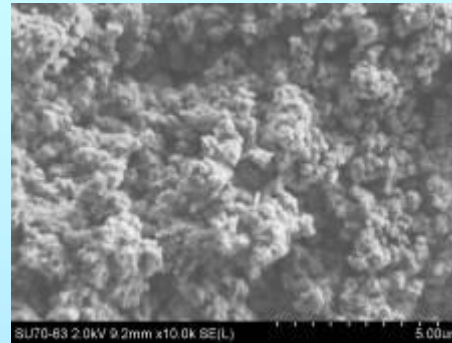
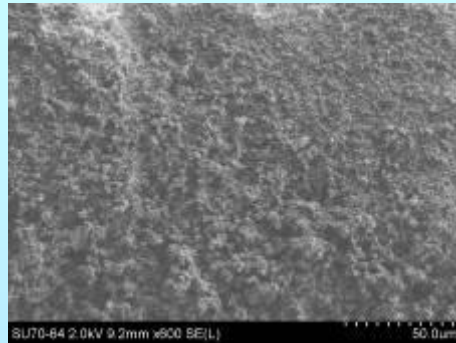
**0.05M NaCl + Mg<sup>2+</sup>/Cr<sup>3+</sup>, VO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>**



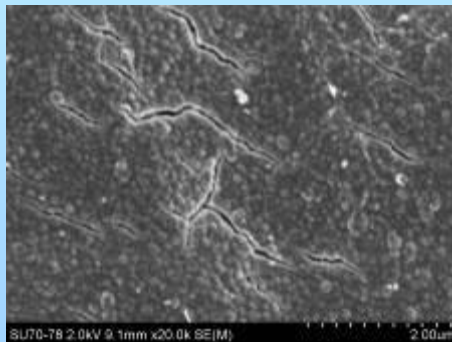
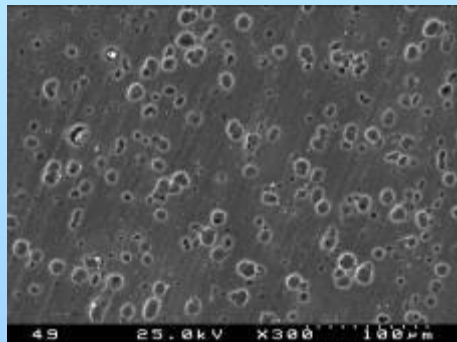


# Mg/Cr LDH pigments

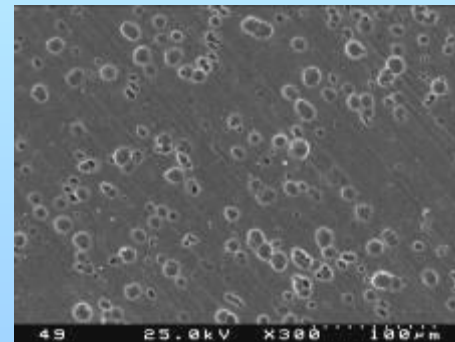
Al in 0.05M NaCl



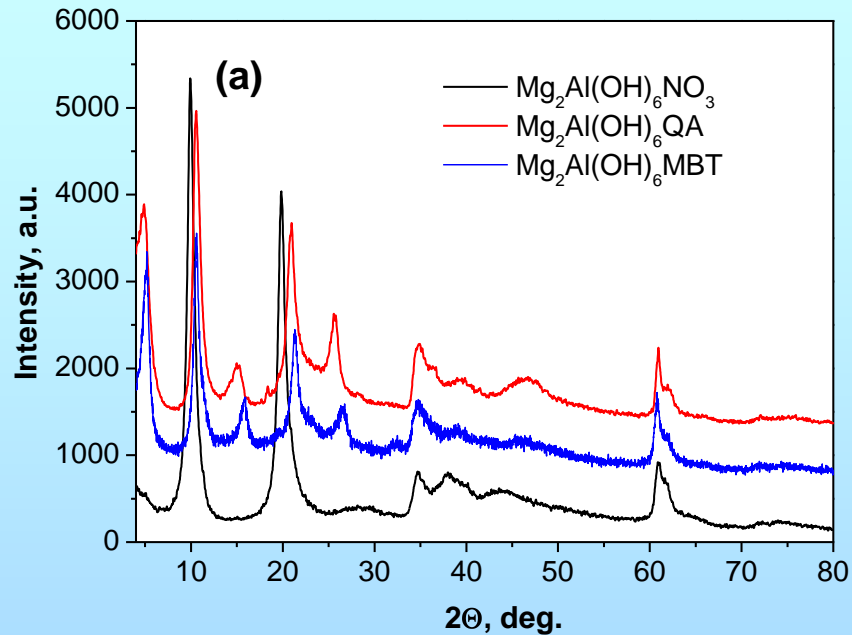
Al in 0.05M NaCl +  $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{MoO}_4^{2-}$



Al in 0.05M NaCl +  $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{VO}_3^-$



# Mg-Al LDH pigments



*d(003)*

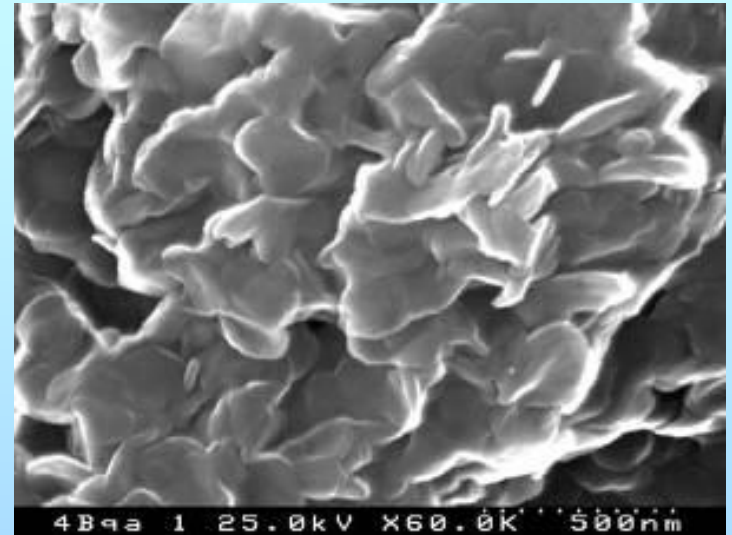
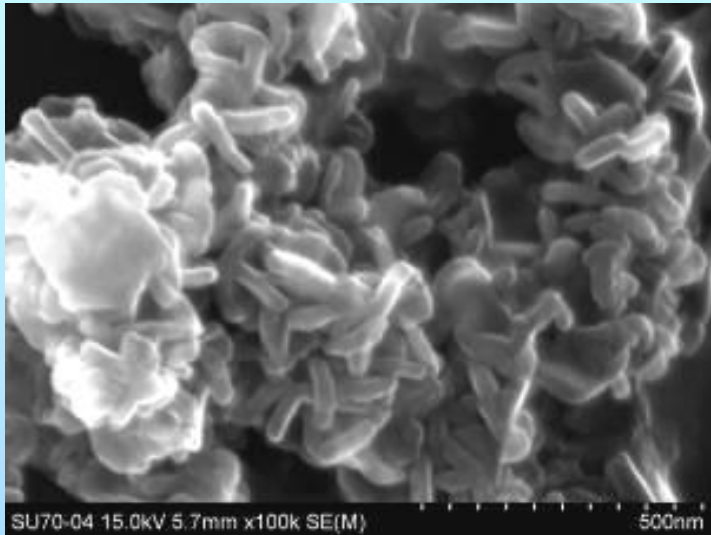
- $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{NO}_3$  - 0.8909 nm
- $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{QA}$  - 1.78 nm
- $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT}$  - 1.71 nm

The average size of LDH nanocrystallites:

- 12 nm -  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{NO}_3$
- 14 nm -  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{QA}$
- 14 nm -  $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT}$

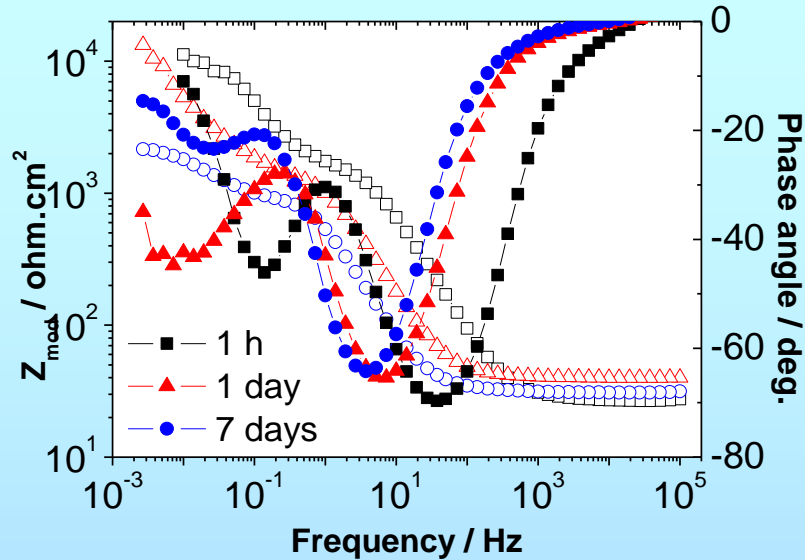


# Mg-Al LDH pigments

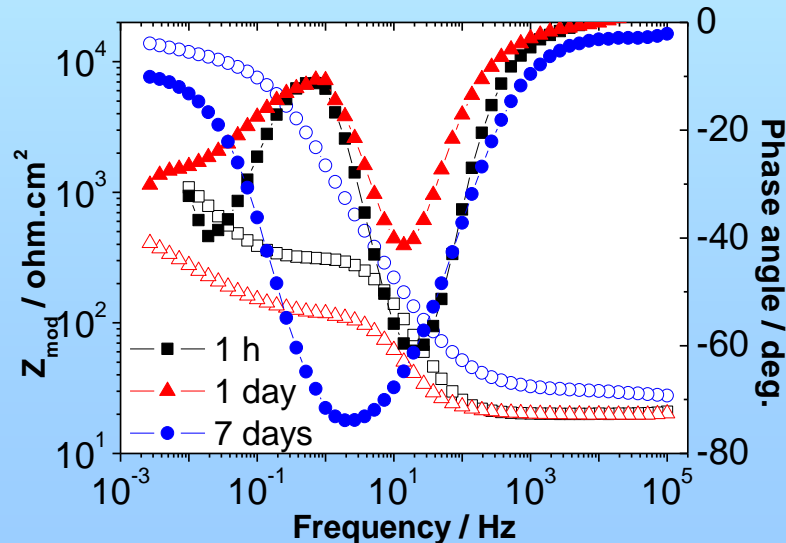
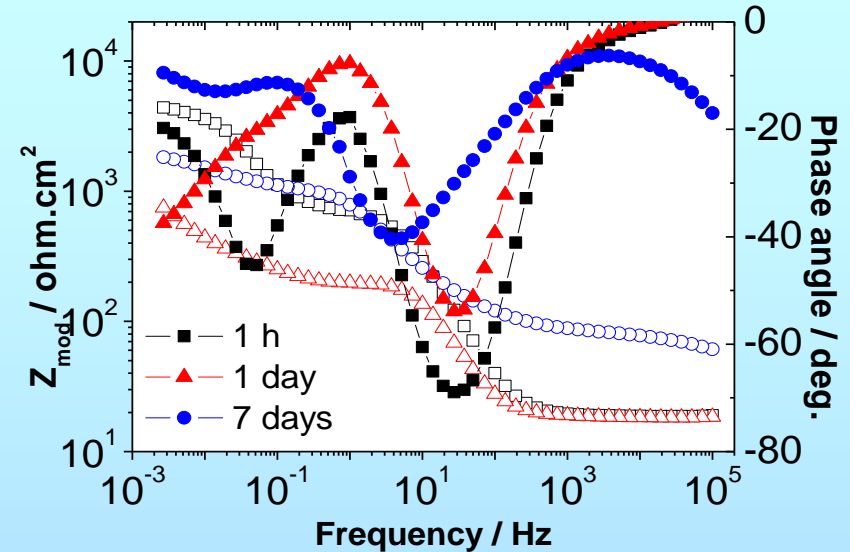


# Corrosion efficiency of LDH pigments

0.05 M NaCl

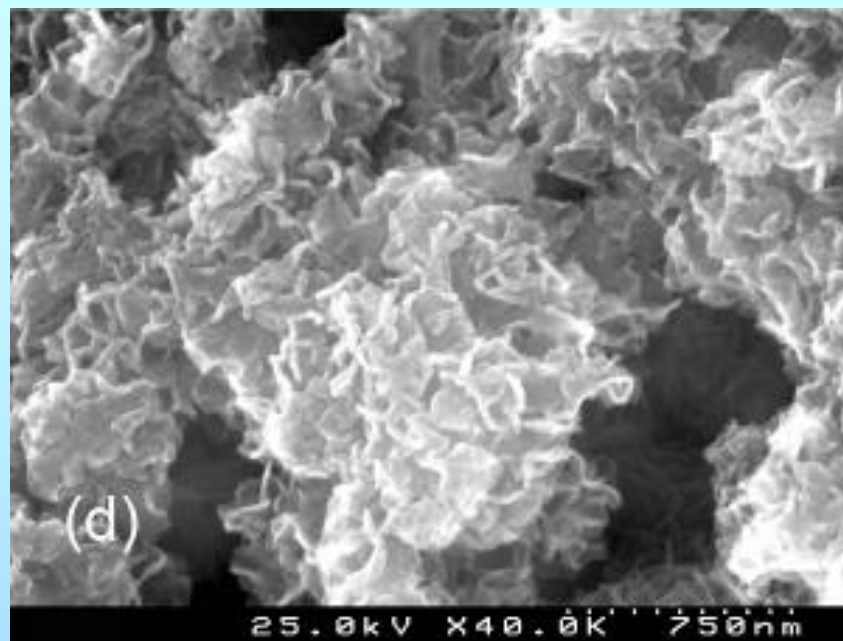
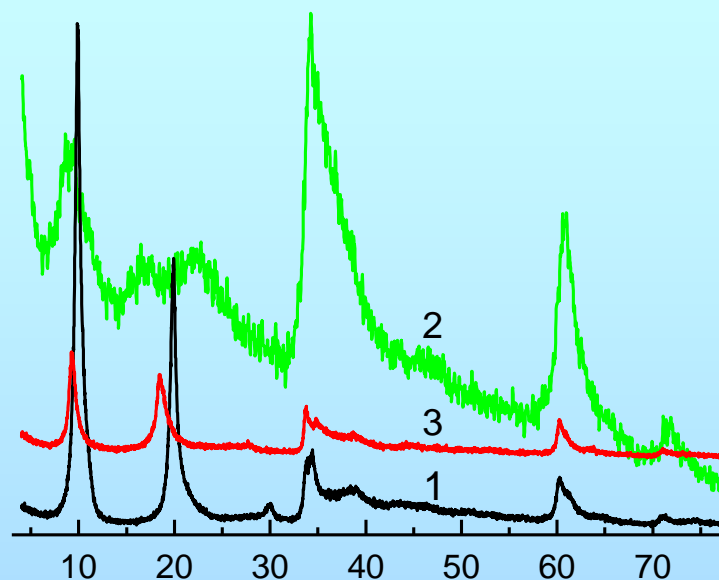


$\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{QA} + 0.05 \text{ M NaCl}$



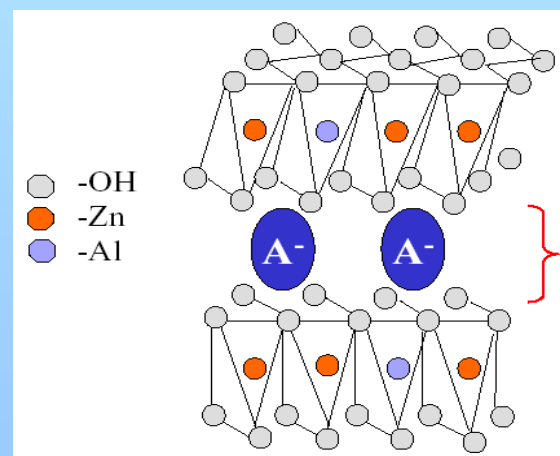
$\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT} + 0.05 \text{ M NaCl}$

# Zn-Al LDH pigments

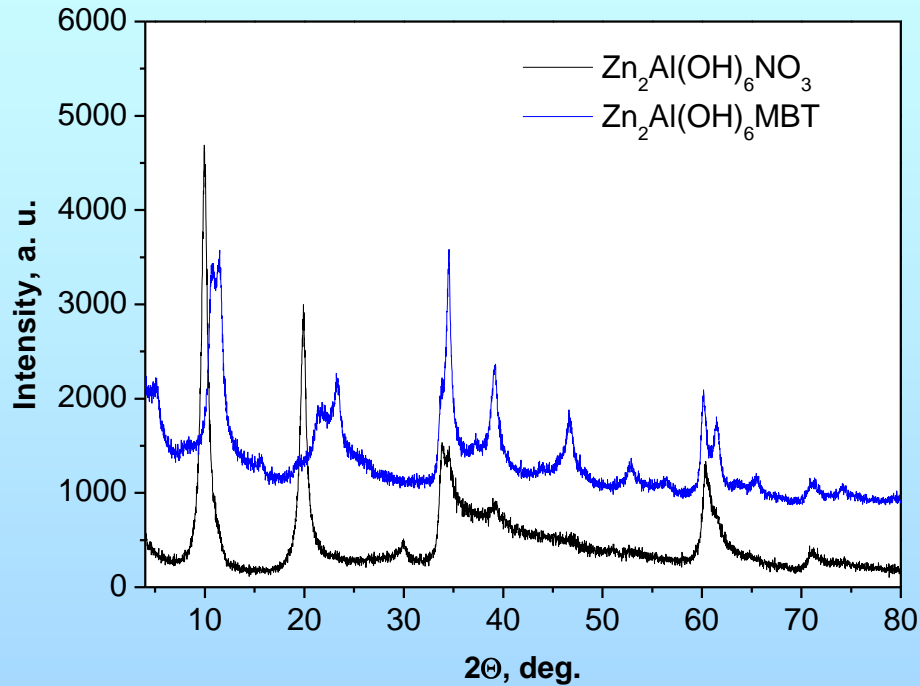


## X-ray diffraction patterns for Zn-Al LDHs

- 1 –  $\text{NO}_3^-$  d(003) 0.8892nm
- 2 -  $\text{VO}_3^-$  by direct synthesis d(003) 0.9262nm
- 3 -  $\text{VO}_3^-$  by anion exchange



# Zn-Al LDH pigments

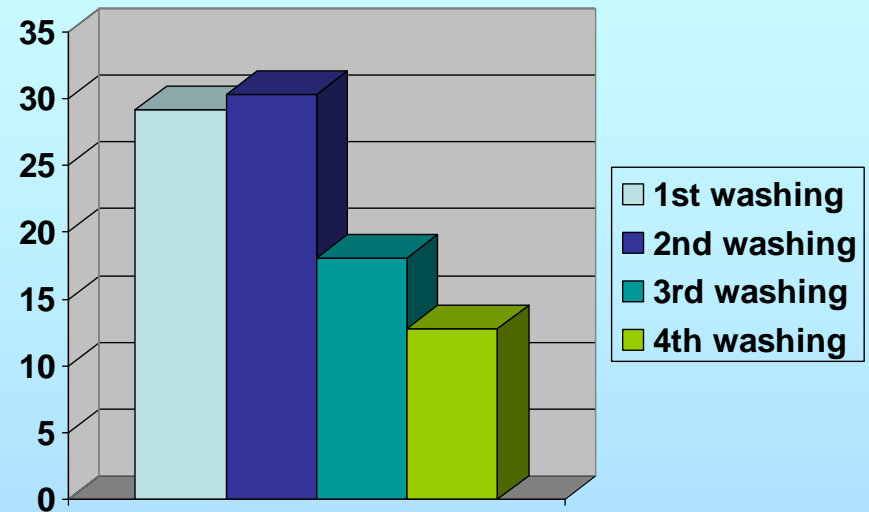
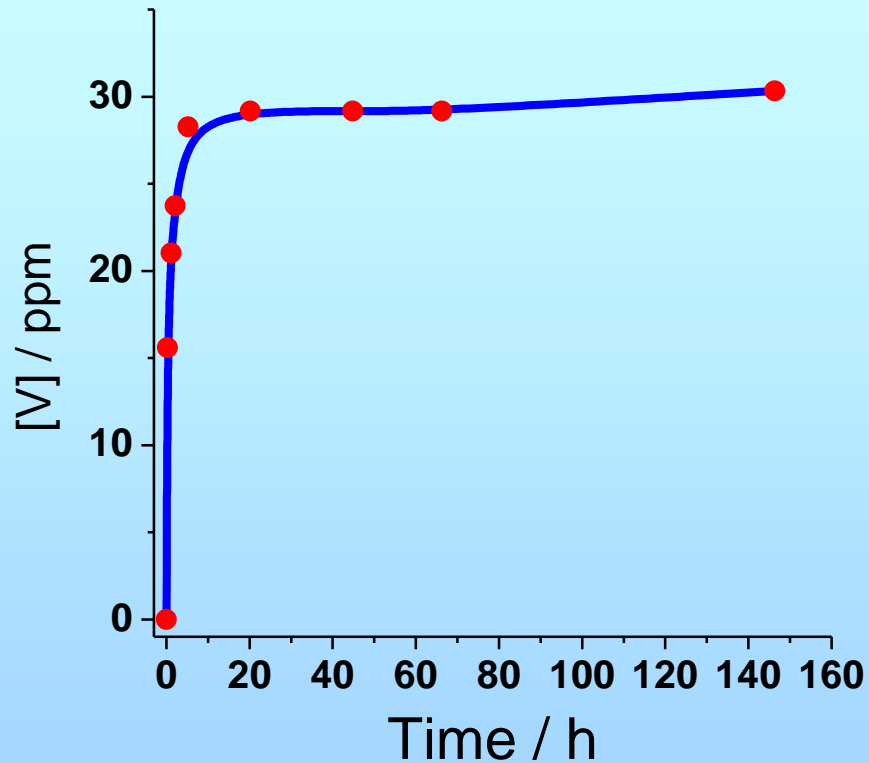


d(003)

$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{NO}_3$  - 0.8892 nm

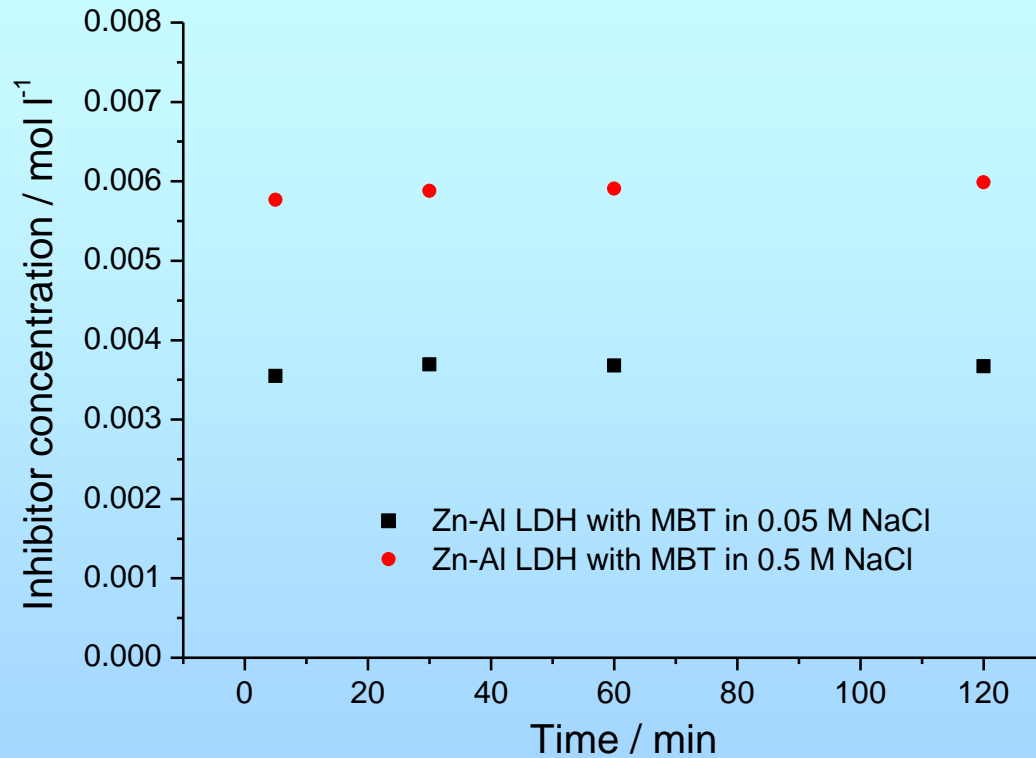
$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT}$  - 1.71 nm

# Release of vanadate from LDH pigments



Concentration of released vanadium vs. time plots for  $\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3$  LDH in 0.5 M NaCl solutions (200 mg LDH per 25 ml of solution).

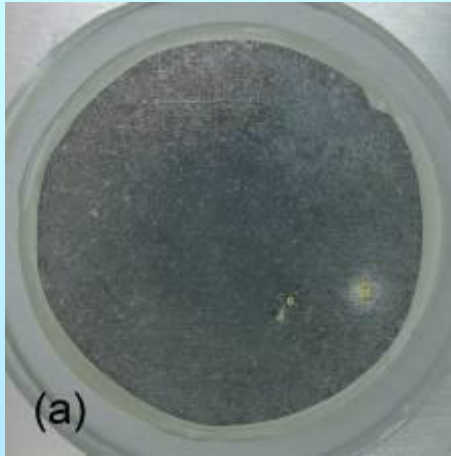
# Release of inhibitors from LDH pigments



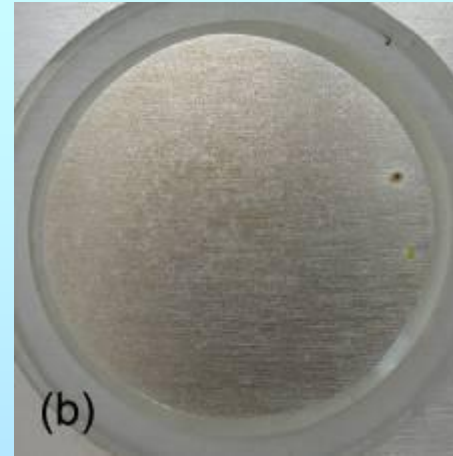
- LDH pigments demonstrate fast release-response
- Release of inhibitor is triggered by chloride ions

# Corrosion efficiency of LDH pigments

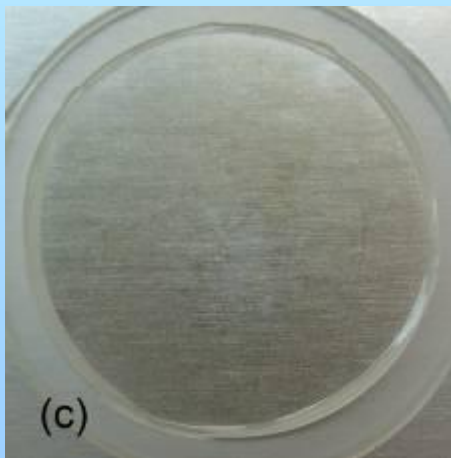
$\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3 + 0.05 \text{ M NaCl}$



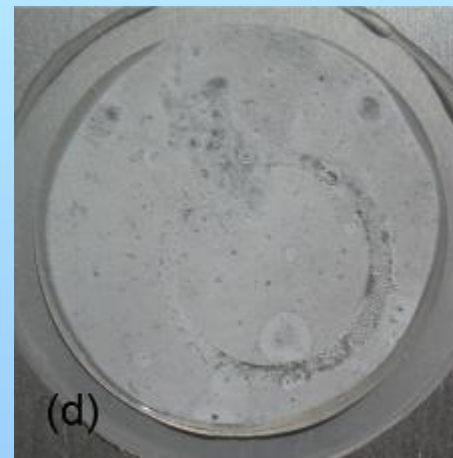
$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3$  (direct)+ 0.05 M NaCl



2 weeks

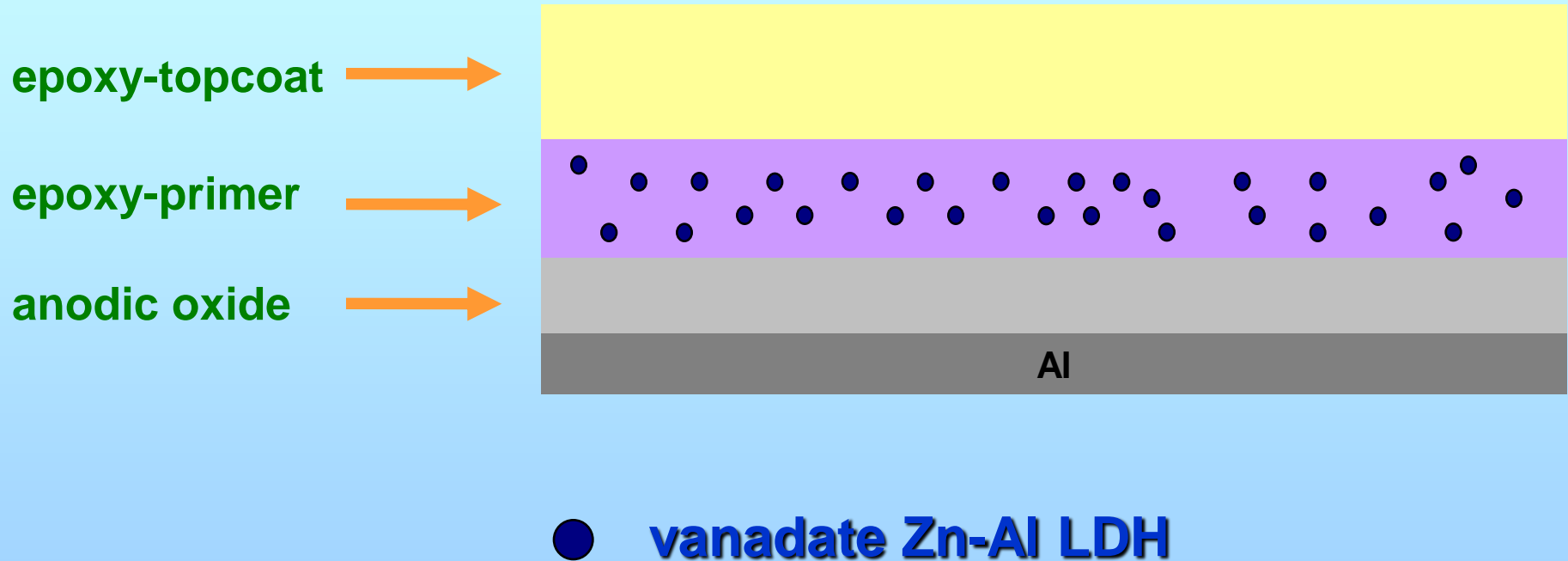


$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3$  (exch.)+ 0.05 M NaCl



0.05 M NaCl

# LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

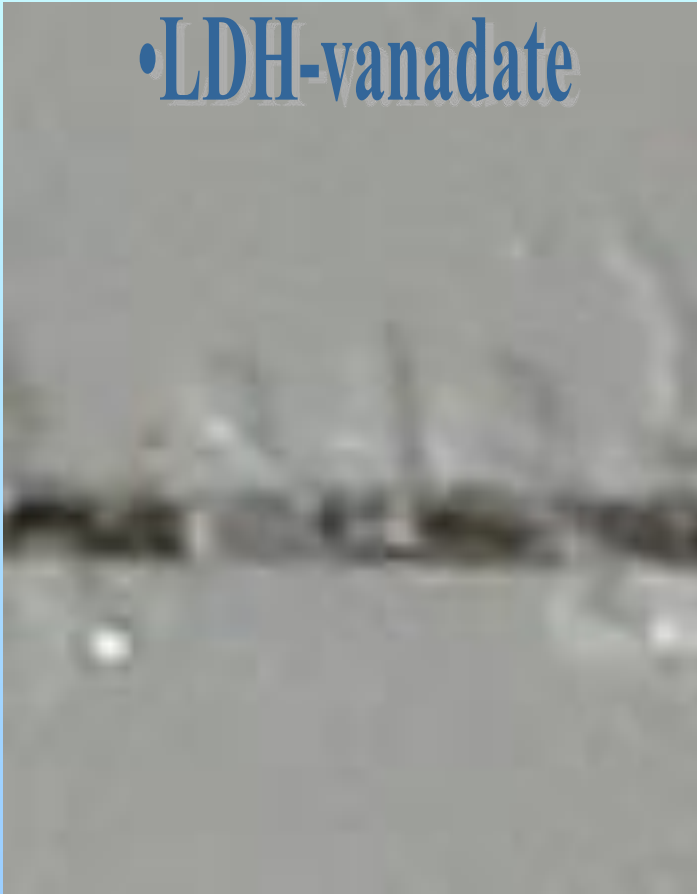




# LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

960 h of filiform corrosion tests

•LDH-vanadate



•undoped

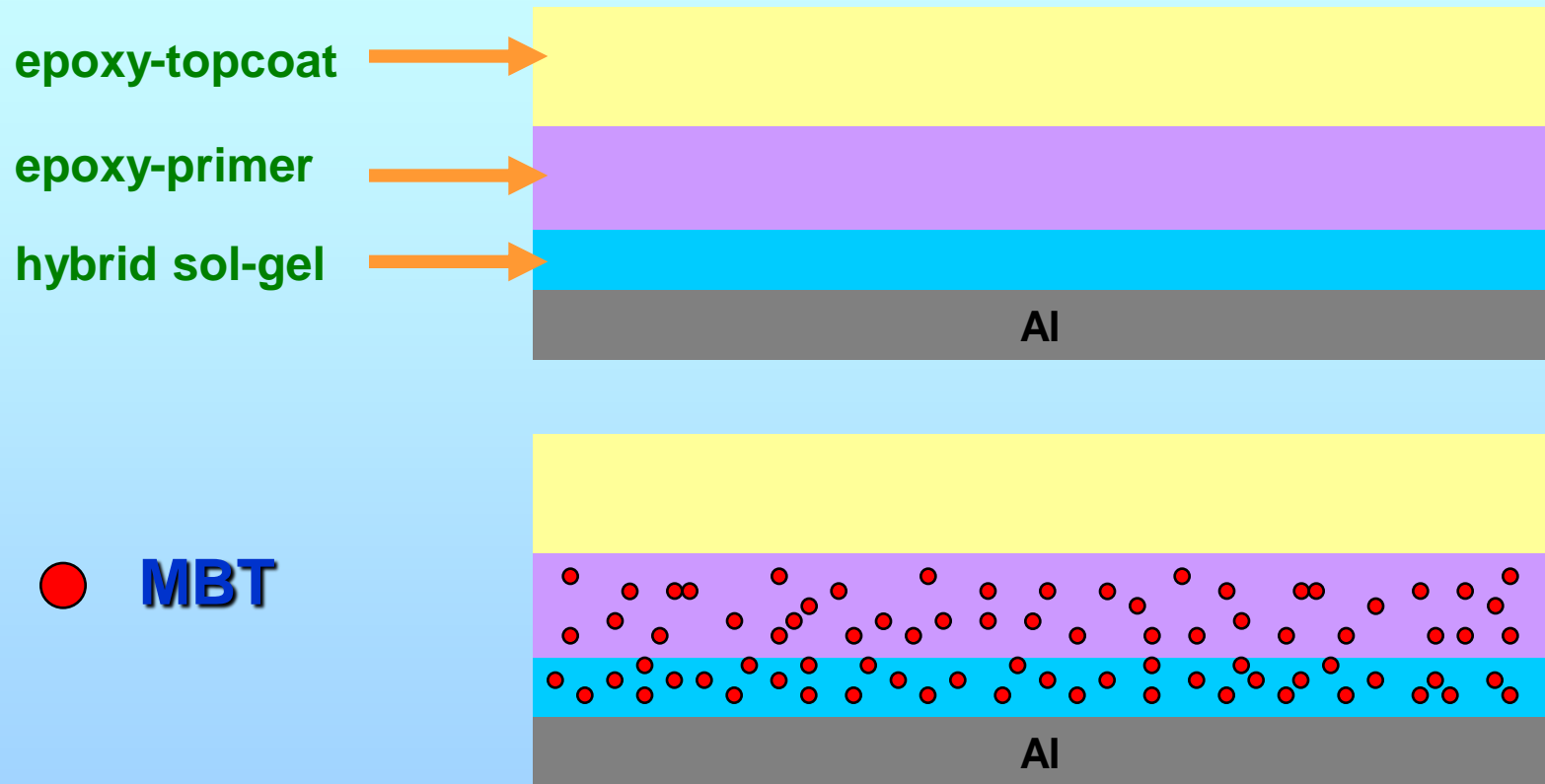


# LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

## results of filiform corrosion tests

Sample	960 h		336 h	
	Max Filament length [mm]	Amount M1...M5	Max Filament length [mm]	Amount M1...M5
<b>Zn<sub>2</sub>AlVO<sub>3</sub> LDH - 1</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>M3</b>	<b>1,0</b>	<b>M2</b>
<b>Zn<sub>2</sub>AlVO<sub>3</sub> LDH - 2</b>	<b>2,0</b>	<b>M3</b>	<b>1,0</b>	<b>M2</b>
<b>Undoped - 1</b>	<b>2,3</b>	<b>M3-4</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>M2</b>
<b>Undoped - 2</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>M3</b>	<b>1,2</b>	<b>M3</b>
<b>Chromate - 1</b>	<b>1,6</b>	<b>M3</b>	<b>0,7</b>	<b>M3</b>
<b>Chromate - 2</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>M3</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>M3</b>

# LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

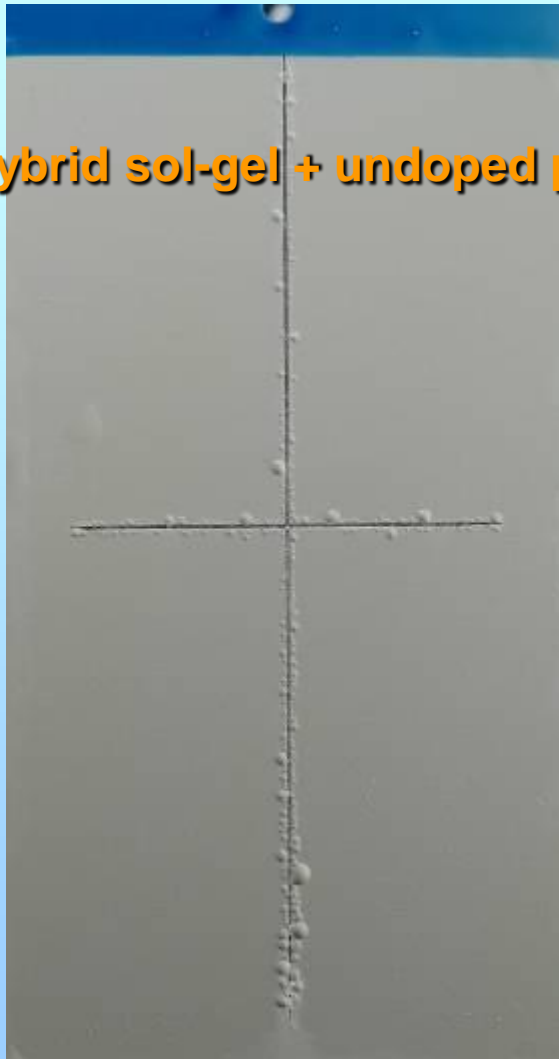


# Aerospace coatings with LDH nanocontainers of organic inhibitors

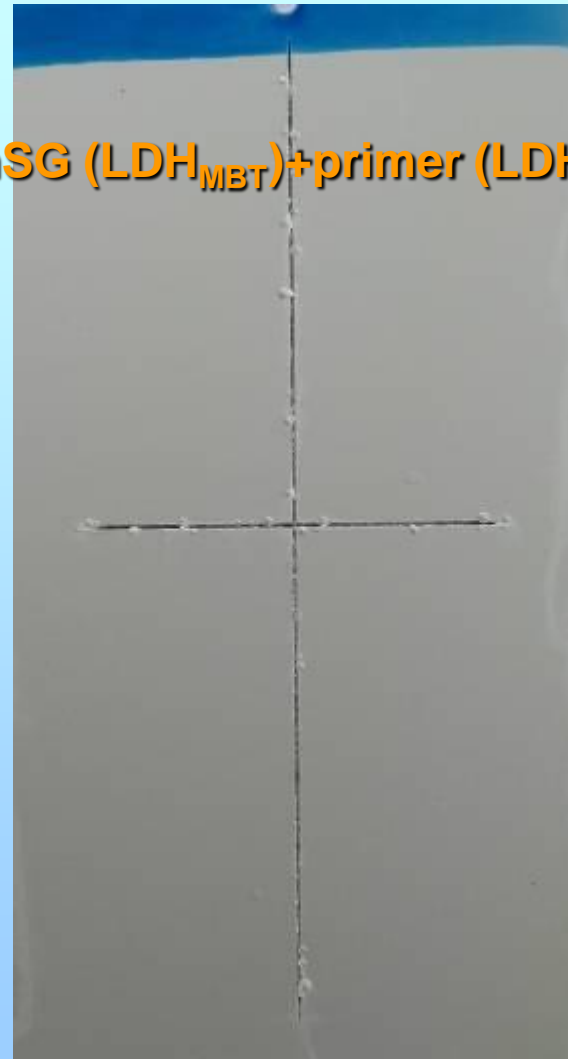
•EN ISO 3665

336 h SST

hybrid sol-gel + undoped primer

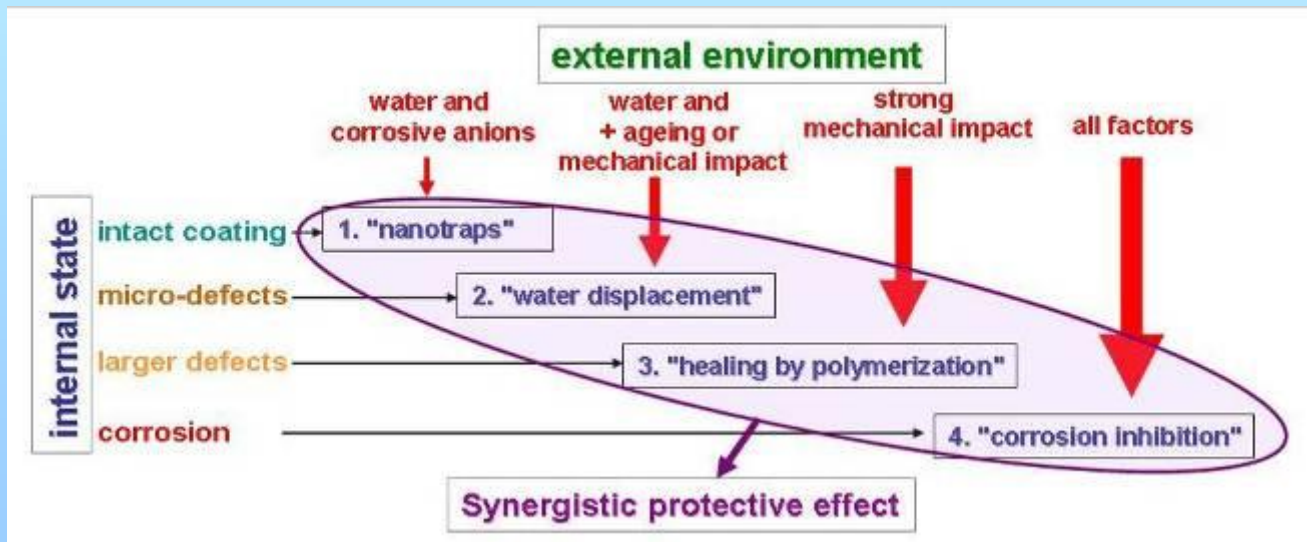


hSG (LDH<sub>MBT</sub>)+primer (LDH<sub>MBT</sub>)



# MULTI-LEVEL ACTIVE PROTECTION

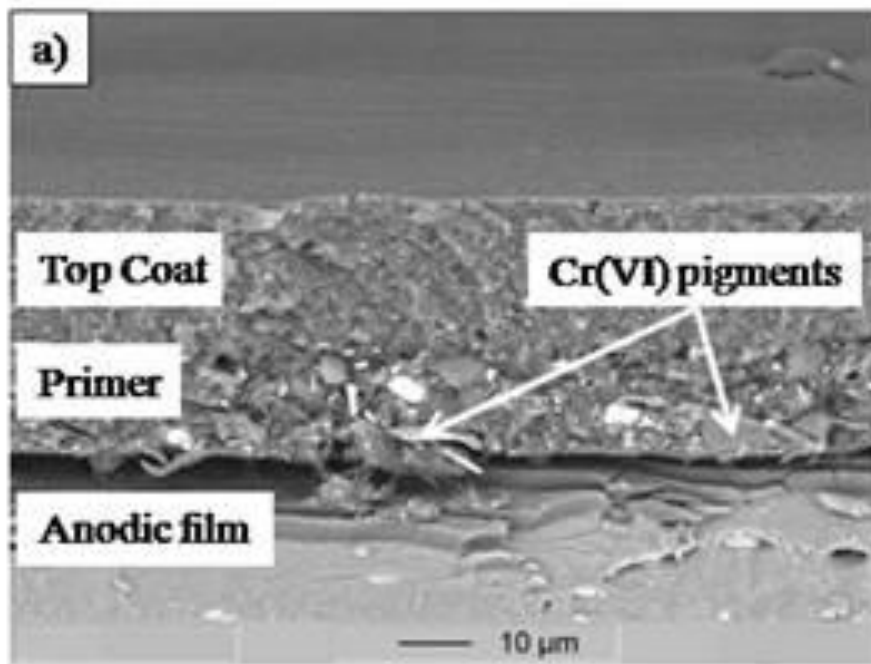
- Active feed-back of the coatings depends on the internal state of the coating system and the external environmental conditions
- Different levels of active protection are working as response to different impacts



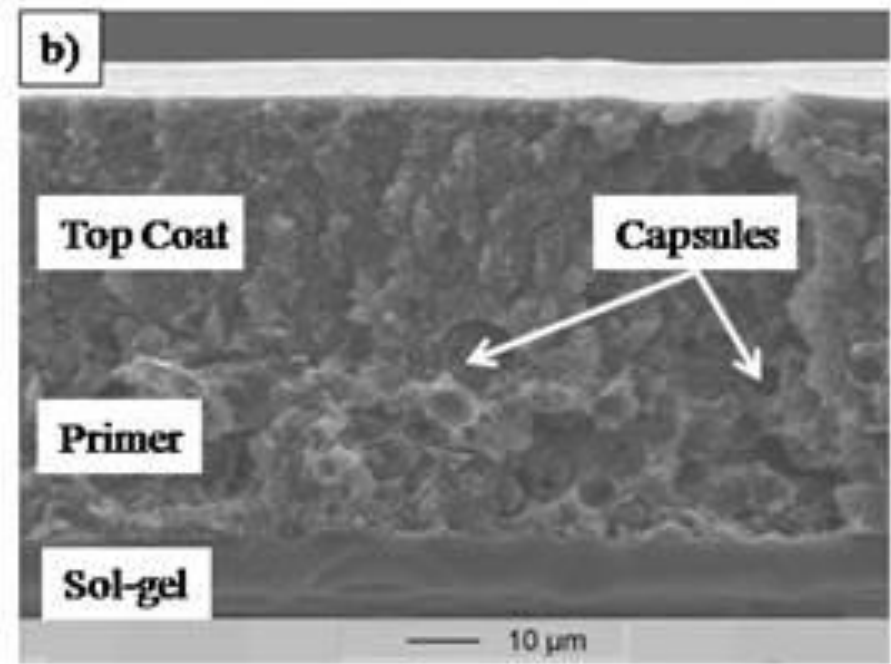
# 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> level: water displacement + corrosion inhibition

Capsules of **water displacing agent** (diisopropylnaphthalene) and **corrosion inhibitor** (MBT) produced by **microemulsion** interfacial polymerization.

Conventional coating system

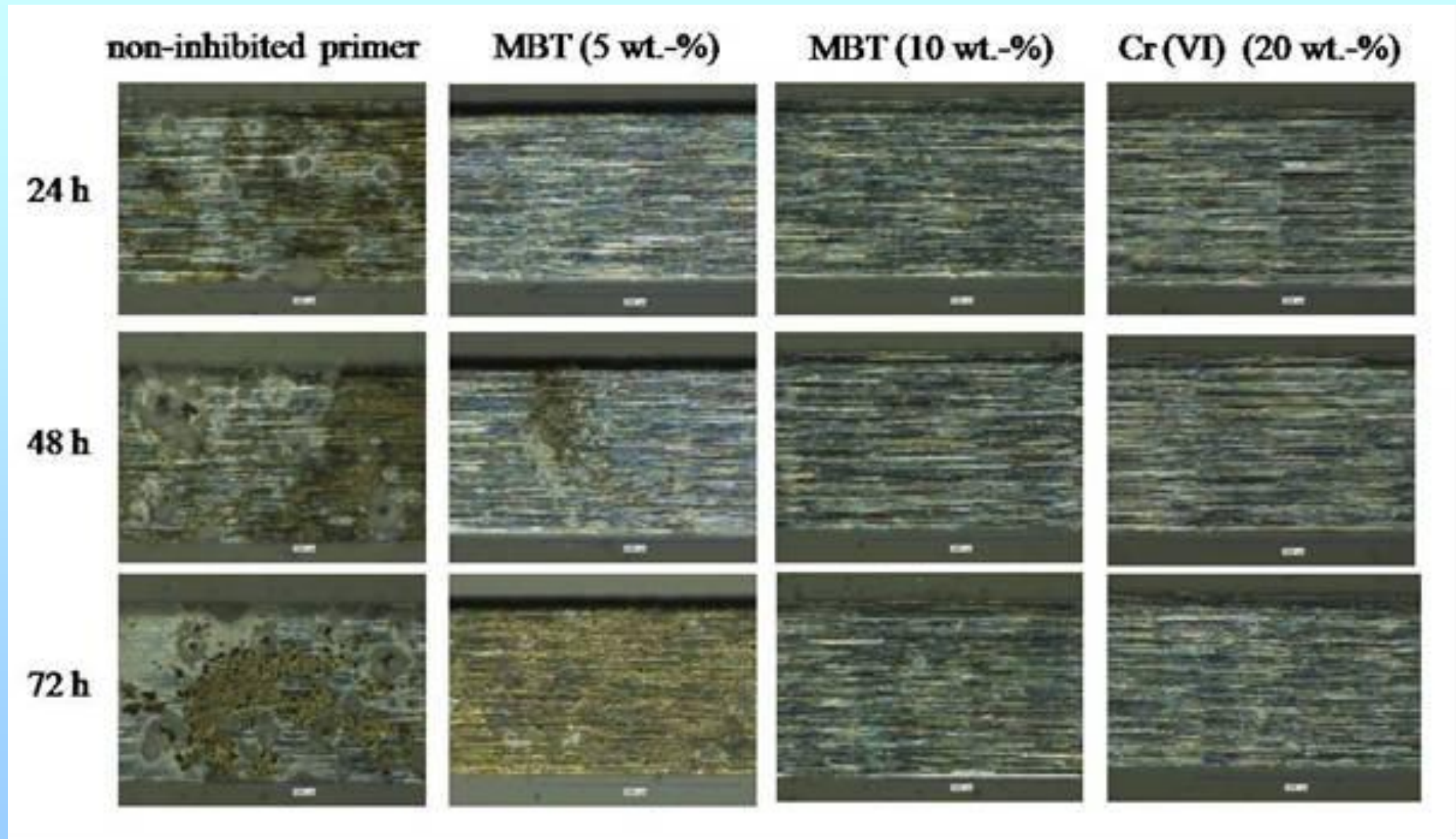


New coating system

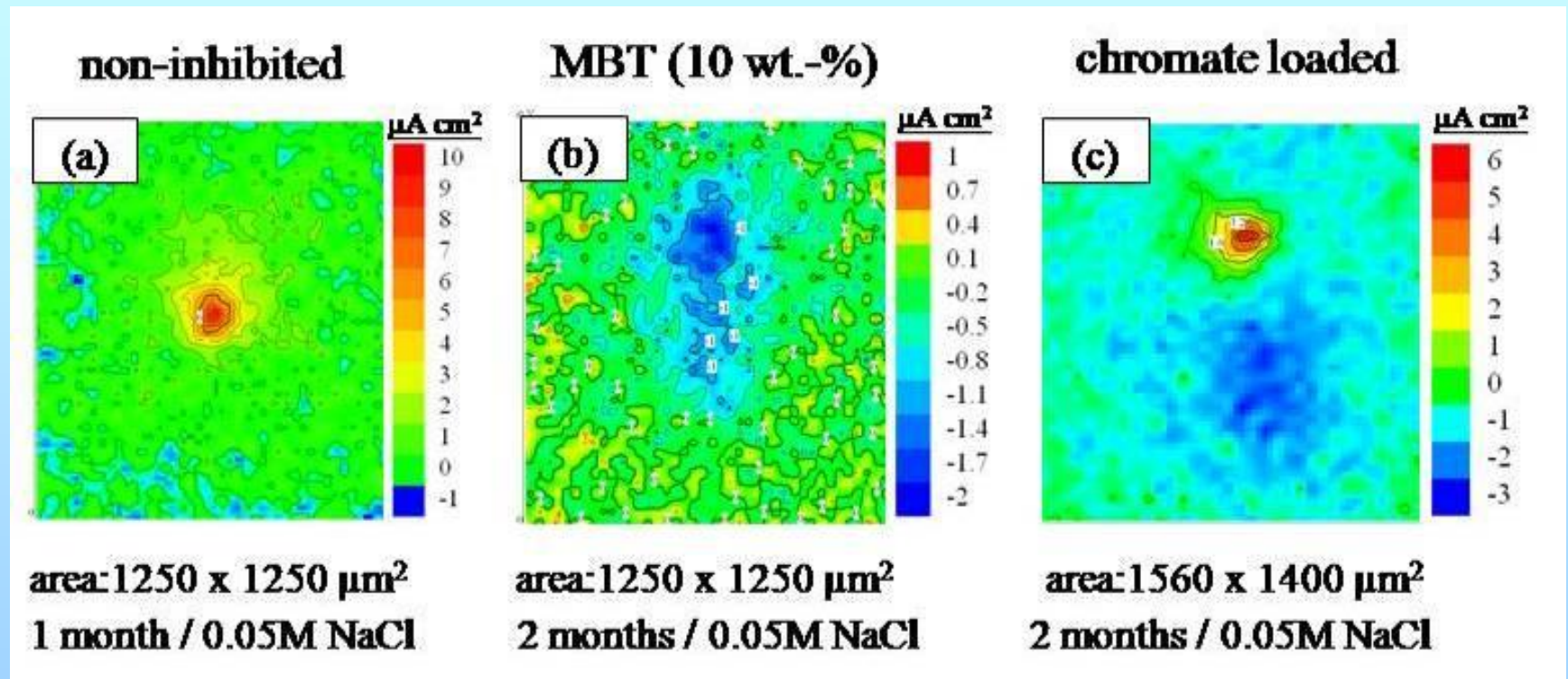




# Self-healing of defects (2<sup>nd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> levels)



# Self-healing of defects (2<sup>nd</sup> + 4<sup>th</sup> levels)





# Conclusions

- ✓ *Introduction of the inhibitor in the form of nanocontainers instead of the direct addition to the sol-gel matrix prevents its interaction with components of the coating, which can negatively influence the barrier properties of the hybrid film and lead to the deactivation of the inhibitor;*
- ✓ *Several new approaches of corrosion inhibitor delivery on demand are proposed conferring intelligent self-healing ability to the protective films.*
- ✓ *“Smart” nanoreservoirs of corrosion inhibitors are produced using polyelectrolyte shells assembled by LbL approach. These containers are pH-sensitive providing release of corrosion inhibitor on demand;*
- ✓ *Nanocontainers of corrosion inhibitors based on LDH nanopigments are developed demonstrating effective corrosion protection and self-healing ability;*
- ✓ *New concept of multilevel anticorrosion system based on active nanocontainers for coatings is proposed.*

# Acknowledgements

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• **Thank you for attention!**